

SEMESTER BY THE BAY / HOMER, ALASKA

KACHEMAK BAY CAMPUS / KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE

MARINE MAMMAL BIOLOGY & CONSERVATION ECOLOGY

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Semester by the Bay has 25+ internship opportunities available over the fall and spring semesters, offering students real-world experience putting into practice what they are learning in the classroom.

For information about the Semester by the Bay program visit www.semesterbythebay.org or contact the UAA/KPC Kachemak Bay Campus at (907) 235-7743.



CENTER FOR ALASKAN COASTAL STUDIES
Adina Allen - Environmental Education Intern
 Duties included creating lesson plans for the after-school/homeschool programs (K-6th), providing related content during workshops, helping lead overnight programs across the Bay at the Peterson Bay Field Station, helping with marine debris clean-ups with the local elementary schools, and creating informational write-ups.
"I am ecstatic that during this internship I could create plans about things that the kids found interesting and that I also loved, all while getting to know them better and becoming closer as a group."

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
Tom Hall - Fisheries Intern
 Focus on sport fisheries, field experience with video and sonar weirs, Chinook broodstock collection, razor clam maturity survey, groundfish port sampling, and commercial fisheries - pink salmon otolith sampling and McNeil River Falls predation study.
"I was fortunate enough to take part in a Chinook broodstock collection on the Ninilchik River. This species means a lot to the people of Alaska and the ecosystems they inhabit and I am honored to have been able to take part in their conservation."



KACHEMAK HERITAGE LAND TRUST
Lindsey Kammueler - Land Stewardess Intern
 Primary duties were to help draft a management plan for a 259-acre wetland parcel and organize the files according to national Land Trust Standards and Practices.
"My biggest accomplishment was the completion of the Comerford Billberg Morris Preserve Land Management Plan which was passed by the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Land and Easement Committee, and approved by the KHLT Board of Directors."



LEE POST / CENTER FOR ALASKAN COASTAL STUDIES
Mikayla Zylich - Marine Mammal Skeletal Articulation Intern
 Responsible for cleaning, repairing, skinning, consolidating, preparing, and articulating marine mammal bones and the bones of birds and terrestrial animals.
"My greatest accomplishments were simmering and cleaning an entire harbor porpoise skeleton, articulating an eagle skeleton and a Steller sea lion flipper, and learning/loving how to use a Dremel."



CENTER FOR ALASKAN COASTAL STUDIES
Elona Tanski - Environmental Education Intern
 Duties included the creation and/or implementation of STEM, place-based educational programs for students, including home school sessions, marine debris walks, and environmental education lessons.
"The project I enjoyed most was a two-night trip to the Peterson Bay Field Station where we hiked, sea kayaked, foraged, went night tide-pooling, and more. Seeing the kids so completely immersed and connected to the environment was an incredible, formative experience."

ALASKA MARITIME NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, ISLANDS AND OCEANS VISITOR CENTER
Alexis Paugh - Environmental Education and Visitor Outreach Intern
 Responsible for creating environmental education programs and teaching students from pre-K through 5th grade about the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.
"I created my first virtual program for pre-K on orcas and produced a pre-K puffins video, and best of all and got to teach 5th graders photogrammetry!"



LEE POST / CENTER FOR ALASKAN COASTAL STUDIES
Abigail Flowers - Marine Mammal Skeletal Articulation Intern
 Internship duties included removing dead tissue, treating, repairing, articulating, and processing bones to creating museum-quality specimens, and maintaining and repairing local skeletons.
"My proudest accomplishments were articulating a steller sea lion flipper, cleaning a neonate beluga skeleton, fastening harbor porpoise teeth to a skull, and learning the in-depth anatomy of marine mammals!"



WINGED WHALE RESEARCH
Ana Noel - Cetacean Identification Intern
 Internship duties included updating the Kachemak Bay humpback whale catalog, using the catalog to photo ID humpbacks in Kachemak Bay, driving the boat to obtain whale fluke photos, and creating a map of humpback whale sightings.
"My greatest accomplishment was going out on the boat and driving behind a whale in order for my mentor to obtain a fluke shot. This real-life experience in the field and made me feel like I have made an impact on humpback whale research: it inspired me to want to become a research scientist."



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, KASITSNA BAY LAB
Erin Reilly - Marine Ecology Intern
 It was my responsibility to determine the utility of Landsat imagery to map kelp forests in Kachemak Bay.
"I was to determine at which point in the tidal cycle the kelp was viewable, as well as download and process satellite imagery utilizing near-infrared, green, and red color frequencies which view the kelp as vegetation and show brighter in contrast to the ocean water."

WINGED WHALE RESEARCH
Diondre Ryan - Marine Mammal Catalogue Intern
 My role in the internship was the identification of humpback whales in Kachemak Bay as well as the tracking and logging of their locations over the years.
"My accomplishments include the identification of over 200 whales over the past decade and expanding the humpback catalog into the current year!"



WINGED WHALE RESEARCH
Julia Illar - Cetacean Identification Intern
 Responsible for Photo ID of humpback whales, mapping recorded locations of humpbacks and documenting humpbacks in Kachemak Bay to expand the cetacean identification catalog.
"My accomplishments with this internship have been the internship in its entirety, this has been such a fulfilling experience that I am so grateful for!"



KACHEMAK BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE
Alex Alasin - Harmful Species Program Intern
 Internship duties included checking crab pots and tunicate plates and analyzing temperature data.
"I studied European green crab and determined their larvae can't develop in Kachemak Bay."

